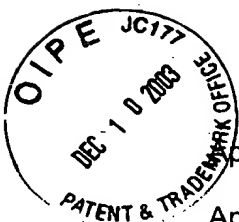


1764

396.40405X00



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): NINOMIYA, et al.
Application No.: 09/918,648
Filed: August 1, 2001
For: PROCESS FOR RECOVERING DITRIMETHYLOLPROPANE
Group: 1764
Examiner: Virginia Manoharan

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW
BEFORE FURTHER OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 10, 2003

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 10, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as listed in the following, and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendments to the Specification;

Amendments to the Claims; and

Remarks are included following the amendments.